

Oscar Gustav Soberg



Oscar Gustav Soberg was born 26 April 1889 in Lakeville to Peter Soberg (1848-1930) and Oline “Lena” Teppen (1854-1941), both immigrants from the Trysil Municipality of Norway. They were farmers in Lakeville, where the family attended the Christiania Lutheran Free Church.

Oscar went to Canada in about 1911. He already belonged to the active militia at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan when he decided to enlist in the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Forces on 2 March 1915. He swore allegiance to King George V and volunteered to serve for one year. He served as a private in the 5th Battalion, Canadian Infantry.

By June 1916, Solberg was in Belgium with the 5th Battalion. He and three others were on outpost duty during fierce fighting during the Battle of Ypres. After the battle, no trace of the four could be found. His death date is recorded as 2 June 1916. He was 27 years old.

Soberg’s remains were never recovered. His name is recorded at Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium. His mother received three medals and a plaque from the British government in recognition of his service.

The Oscar and John Soberg VFW Post 210 in Lakeville was named in honor of the Soberg brothers. In 1933, their mother Lena Soberg went on one of the last U.S. Government-sponsored Gold Star Mothers’ Pilgrimages to visit the graves of her two sons, Oscar and Paul Soberg, who lost their lives in the War.

